

## ABOUT OLAC

Online Audiovisual Catalogers, Inc. is the only organization for catalogers concerned with all types of nonprint materials, including a wide range of digital resources as well as more “traditional” formats: video and sound recordings, Internet websites, databases, maps, multimedia, graphic materials, and realia.

Through OLAC’s conferences, workshops, publications, and the OLAC website and electronic discussion list, catalogers exchange information and enjoy expert and practical advice on cataloging audiovisual resources.

An international organization representing a diverse library constituency, OLAC has been in the forefront of advocacy for the integration of standard bibliographic records for all nonprint material into library catalogs.

As library collections reflect increasing use of nonprint media, especially electronic media of all kinds, OLAC provides a channel of communication with the Library of Congress and with other library organizations about developing international standards and practices for cataloging new and existing formats.

OLAC’s Cataloging Policy Committee (CAPC) publishes authoritative resources and training materials for cataloging AV materials. Recent publications include *Authority Tools for Audiovisual and Music Catalogers* (2005) and *Introduction to Cataloging Electronic Integrating Resources: An Online Training Presentation* (2003). CAPC publications may be viewed on OLAC’s website, along with *Book Reviews of Interest to AV Catalogers* and *Useful Websites for AV Catalogers*.

## Olac Online Audiovisual Catalogers

...The Internet and AV Media Catalogers Network

### FURTHER INFORMATION

OLAC membership applications, conference information, newsletters, book reviews, and publications can be found at the OLAC Web site: <http://www.olacinc.org>

#### For membership inquiries, applications and address changes:

please use the Membership Form at <http://www.olacinc.org/membform.html>

#### Membership rates in U.S. dollars:

Personal (North America) \$20.00  
Institutional (North America) \$25.00  
Foreign (Outside North America) \$25.00

Questions about OLAC or AV cataloging can be posted to the OLAC listserv.

For more information see <http://www.olacinc.org/>

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## OLAC's PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

To establish and maintain a group that can speak for catalogers of audiovisual materials, including digital

resources of all types, video recordings, sound and music, websites, databases, three-dimensional artifacts and realia, kits, and graphic and cartographic materials.

- To provide a means for exchange of information about the cataloging of audiovisual materials.
- To provide a means of continuing education for catalogers of audiovisual materials.
- To provide a means of communication among catalogers of audiovisual materials.
- To work toward common understanding of international cataloging practices and standards for audiovisual materials including but not limited to AACR3, RDA, and evolving metadata schemas.
- To provide a means of communication and advocacy with the Library of Congress, bibliographic utilities and other organizations.
- To encourage research and professional development in the field of audiovisual cataloging through research grants and scholarships awarded to members.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

OLAC members enjoy a reduced rate for OLAC conference attendance. A scholarship is awarded each conference year to a member who has not previously attended an OLAC Conference. A research grant is awarded annually.

OLAC conferences, held biennially, feature a mix of practical workshops dealing with a variety of non-print media, along with theoretical and visionary sessions on new and emerging cataloging standards presented by leaders in the field. Recent conferences have taken place in Seattle, Washington; St. Paul, Minnesota; and Montreal, Canada.

The quarterly *OLAC Newsletter*, available online at <http://www.olacinc.org/newsletters> keeps members up to date with OLAC's activities. It includes reviews of professional resources as well as the useful OLAC Cataloger's Judgment column with questions and answers about challenging nonprint cataloging conundrums.

OLAC membership meetings, held during the ALA midwinter meetings and annual conferences and at OLAC biennial conferences, regularly include a question-and-answer session where members and visitors may address questions to cataloging experts.

Members can recommend and have influence on developing cataloging standards for emerging and existing formats through OLAC's Cataloging Policy Committee (CAPC.)

All catalogers can find assistance with cataloging on the OLAC website: <http://www.olacinc.org> and through the OLAC electronic discussion list.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Available at the OLAC website  
<http://www.olacinc.org/capc/>

- Authority Tools for Audiovisual and Music Catalogers
- Guide to Cataloging DVDs Using AACR2r Chapters 7 and 9
- Source of Title Note for Internet Resources
- Summary Notes for Catalog Records
- Online Training: Implementing the Revised AACR2 Chapter 9 for Cataloging Electronic Resources

## KEY EVENTS

### 1980

- 30 catalogers meet in New York City to form On-Line Audiovisual Catalogers

### 1984

- First OLAC conference, Dublin, Ohio
- Cataloging Policy Committee formed

### 1986

- First OLAC Award (later renamed the Nancy B. Olson Award) presented to Verna Urbanski

### 1991

- OLAC Archive established

### 1995

- OLAC becomes NACO member via Funnel Project

### 2005

- OLAC is granted an official representative to ALA's Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)

For current Key Events, see  
<http://www.olacinc.org/facts.html>